



Government Finance Officers Association  
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NEWS RELEASE

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(Chicago)--The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting has been awarded to **Town of Highland** by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR). The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

An Award of Financial Reporting Achievement has been awarded to the individual(s), department or agency designated by the government as primarily responsible for preparing the award-winning CAFR. This has been presented to:

**Michael Griffin, Clerk-Treasurer**

The CAFR has been judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program including demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the CAFR.

The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association serving approximately 16,000 government finance professionals with offices in Chicago, IL, and Washington, D.C.

## Town of Highland • Office of the Clerk-Treasurer

Date: Wednesday, February 13, 2008

Re: Companion to GFOA NEWS RELEASE of 30 January 2008

This award marks the eleventh consecutive time that the Town of Highland and the Clerk-Treasurer have earned this recognition since the first comprehensive annual financial report was filed in 1996 for the Fiscal Year 1995.

There are 1,575 governmental units and 91 counties in Indiana that could submit a specially prepared annual financial report for the program. For fiscal year 2006, **only 21 entities in Indiana were given this prestigious award.**

There were **9 cities**, 1 county, the State of Indiana, **2 towns**, 2 library districts, 1 county, 3 airport authorities, and 3 special service authorities. The **Town of Highland is one of only two Towns** in Indiana that have earned this award from the GFOA. The other Town is Fishers in Hamilton County.

*"It is very gratifying to have been recognized by the Government Finance Officers Association again," said Griffin. "It is particularly heartening to have a panel of public finance professionals review your work and find favorably upon it."*

Griffin continued, "More importantly for me is that I hope this recognition commends the work of the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer to the people of Highland. I sincerely believe the CAFR offers heightened standard of disclosure to the people of Highland. These can lower costs of capital acquisition by the unit, support grant applications and sometimes can assist in lowering costs for Insurance. I hope this work is seen as evidence of our efforts of transparency and professionalism marked by service-driven stewardship in the office of Highland Clerk-Treasurer."

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